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## EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION

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(54) **Use of manganese compounds to inhibit both low- and high-temperature corrosion in utility and industrial furnace systems**

(57) The present invention relates to the reduction or inhibition of corrosion in an atmospheric burner unit by adding to a combustion system an effective amount of manganese, or a manganese precursor source, or derivative. The system may further include a catalyst package that may be composed of one or more individual organometallic compounds of Li, Na, K, Mg, Ca, Sr, Ba, Mo, Fe, Co, Pt, Ce, and combinations, mixtures or precursors thereof. The manganese component of the

catalyst package of the present invention reduces or eliminates the poisoning of the combustion system, whereby improved combustion and reduced emissions result. In addition, this invention inhibits both high- and low-temperature corrosion that occurs on the hot surfaces of burner furnace walls and tubes, and on cooler surfaces of the burner unit exhaust stack.

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# EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number  
EP 03 02 2906

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.7)
X	US 3 692 503 A (KUKIN IRA) 19 September 1972 (1972-09-19) * column 1, line 36 - line 51 * * column 2, line 24 - column 3, line 11; claim 1 *	1-3, 11-13	C10G75/02 C10L1/12
X	GB 1 061 161 A (BASIC INC) 8 March 1967 (1967-03-08) * page 1, line 10 - page 2, line 25 * * page 3, line 82 - line 91; claims 1,7 *	1-4,6, 11-13	
X	FR 2 502 300 A (GAILLARDIN JACQUELINE) 24 September 1982 (1982-09-24) * claims 1,6 *	1	
X	US 2 943 925 A (AMBROSE HENRY A) 5 July 1960 (1960-07-05) * column 1, line 23 - line 36 * * column 2, line 55 - line 70 * * column 3, line 23 - line 46; claim 1; figure 1 *	4,11-13	
X	GB 1 189 356 A (APOLLO CHEMICAL CORPORATION) 22 April 1970 (1970-04-22) * page 1, line 11 - line 49 * * page 2, line 69 - line 80 * * page 3, line 65 - line 69; claim 1 *	1-4,6, 11-13	C10G C10L
X	US 4 512 774 A (LOGAN DOUGLAS P ET AL) 23 April 1985 (1985-04-23) * claims 1,8 *	4,6, 11-13	
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-The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search <b>The Hague</b>		Date of completion of the search <b>9 June 2004</b>	Examiner <b>Deurinck, P</b>
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS		T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document	
X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document			

EPO FORM 1503 03/02 (P04291)



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**CLAIMS INCURRING FEES**

The present European patent application comprised at the time of filing more than ten claims.

- ☐ Only part of the claims have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for the first ten claims and for those claims for which claims fees have been paid, namely claim(s):
- ☐ No claims fees have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for the first ten claims.

**LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION**

The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:

see sheet B

- ☐ All further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for all claims.
- ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, the Search Division did not invite payment of any additional fee.
- ☐ Only part of the further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the inventions in respect of which search fees have been paid, namely claims:
- ☒ None of the further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the invention first mentioned in the claims, namely claims:

1-3, 11-13



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LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION  
SHEET B

Application Number  
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The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:

1. claims: 1-3, 11-13

a method to inhibit corrosion of a combustion unit  
combusting a fuel

1.1. claims: 4, 11-13 (all in part)

a method of reducing the amount of vanadium in the fly ash  
by adding to the fuel an amount of a source of manganese

1.2. claims: 6, 11-13 (all in part)

a method of reducing the amount of sulfur in the fly ash by  
adding to the fuel an amount of a source of manganese  
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2. claims: 4, 11-13 (all in part)

a method of reducing the amount of vanadium in the fly ash  
by adding to the combustion products an amount of a source  
of manganese  
---

3. claims: 5, 11-13 (all in part)

a method of reducing the amount of iron in the fly ash by  
adding to the fuel an amount of a source of manganese  
---

4. claims: 5, 11-13 (all in part)

a method of reducing the amount of iron in the fly ash by  
adding to the combustion products an amount of a source of  
manganese  
---

5. claims: 6, 11-13 (all in part)

a method of reducing the amount of sulfur in the fly ash by  
adding to the combustion products an amount of a source of  
manganese  
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6. claims: 7, 11-13 (in part)

a method for improving the effectiveness of one or more  
fuel-borne organometallic emissions control catalysts  
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7. claims: 8, 11-13 (in part)



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**LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION  
SHEET B**

Application Number  
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The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:

a method to passivate metal surfaces containing Fe203  
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8. claims: 9, 11-13 (in part)

a method to inhibit the oxidation of Fe304 to Fe203  
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9. claims: 10, 11-13 (in part)

a method of increasing the efficiency of an alectrostatic  
precipitator  
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Please note that all inventions mentioned under item 1, although not necessarily linked by a common inventive concept, could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee.

**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT  
ON EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION NO.**

EP 03 02 2906

This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report. The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on  
The European Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information.

09-06-2004

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EPO FORM P0459

For more details about this annex : see Official Journal of the European Patent Office, No. 12/82.